

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of) Confirmation No.: 2864
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Jay MIAZGA et al.) Art Unit: 3762
)
Serial No.: 10/735,807) Examiner: Stephanie R. Smith
)
Filed: December 16, 2003) Docket No.: 000309-00261
)
FOR: PERCUTANEOUS APPARATUS WITH)
 ELECTRICAL COUPLING)

REPLY AND AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In response to the Office Action of September 13, 2006, kindly enter this paper in the record. This paper contains the following sections:

(1) **Amendments to the claims**, which are reflected in the listing of claims that begin on page 3 of this paper; and

(2) **Remarks**, which begin on page 7 of this paper.

In view of the amendments and remarks contained herein, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding Office Action and issuance of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

In the event that any issues remain that can be overcome most easily through a telephone communication, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (202) 772-5800.

It is not believed that a Petition for an extension of time is needed to render the submission of this paper timely. However, if a Petition for an extension of time is required to be filed concurrently herewith to render this submission timely and either is not filed concurrently herewith or does not suffice to render this submission timely, Applicants hereby petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for such an extension for as many months as are required

to render this submission timely. Please charge any deficiency in fees, or credit any overpayment thereof, to BLANK ROME LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (Atty. Ref. No. 000309-00261).

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: December 13, 2006